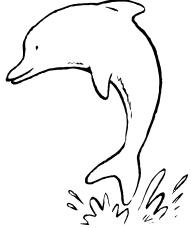


WHAT IS STORMWATER POLLUTION?

When rain flows over streets and other surfaces, it picks up pollutants and carries them into the stormwater conveyance ("storm drain") system. This system is designed to prevent flooding by transporting water away from developed areas.



However, this water is not filtered or treated, and all the contaminants it contains eventually flow to our streams, lakes, and ocean where we swim and fish.

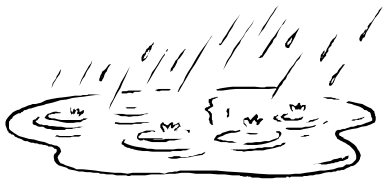


Once there, polluted runoff can harm wildlife and habitats. In some cases, it can even cause beach closures or make fish and shellfish unsafe to eat.

Pet wastes are among the many common stormwater pollutants that can degrade water quality. Other examples include paint, oil and automotive fluids, construction debris, yard wastes, pesticides, litter, pool chemicals, and dirty wash water.



ONLY RAIN IN THE STORM DRAIN



WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT TO PICK UP AFTER YOUR PET?



During rainfall, pet waste left on lawns, beaches, trails and sidewalks washes into storm drains.

These wastes and the pathogens they contain (bacteria, parasites, and viruses) end up flowing directly into streams, lakes and the ocean where they can harm human health and the environment.

As they decompose, pet wastes demand a high level of oxygen from water. This demand can kill fish and plant life by reducing the amount of dissolved oxygen available to them.



Recent studies have shown dogs and cats are sources of fecal contamination at local beaches.

In addition to causing beach closures, this contamination can make people sick with sore throats, intestinal problems, rashes, nausea, and eye and ear infections.



County Code §67.805 prohibits the discharge of anything but rainwater to the stormwater conveyance system or receiving waters.

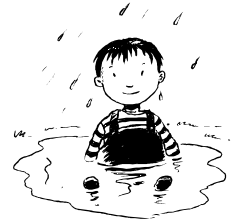
WHAT CAN I DO?



The next time you're caught outside in the rain, take a look at what's running off the street, into the gutters, and down storm drain inlets.

Clean up pet waste in your yard on a regular basis, to prevent polluted runoff.

Carry a bag or "scooper" when you take your pet on walks, to the park or other public places. Be prepared and clean up the pet waste.



Do your part to help keep our water clean!

PICK UP AFTER YOUR PET!

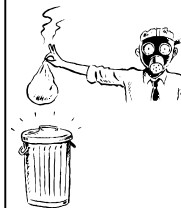
It's as easy as 1-2-3



1. **Bring a bag**



2. **Clean it up**



3. **Dispose of it properly (toilet or trash)**

REFERRAL NUMBERS



For more information on stormwater management

(888) 846-0800



To reach the County Department of Environmental Health

(619) 338-2222



For information on recycling, composting and household toxics

**(877)-R-1 Earth
(877) 713-2784**



To schedule a presentation for your community group or organization

(888) 846-0800



For a daily update on beach and bay closures

(619) 338-2073



project clean water

"clean water through local commitment and action"

Call us for more information:

(888) 846-0800

Or visit us at our web site:

www.sdcdpw.org

or

www.projectcleanwater.org

For pet licensing information, visit the

Department of Animal Services
web site:

www.sddac.com



*Small changes
reduce pollution.*

Printed on recycled paper

08/03

STORMWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION

PET WASTE



County of San Diego
Watershed Protection Program

